



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
**VETERANS' AFFAIRS**  
*Chairman Phil Roe, M.D.*

**H.R. 3949: Veteran Apprenticeship and Labor Opportunity Reform (VALOR) Act**

**Background:**

The Post-9/11 GI Bill authorizes a number of on-the-job training and apprenticeship programs. These programs can greatly expand veterans' career opportunities in a wide range of professional industries with specific, hands-on training that is atypical of a standard two- or four-year school.

The approval process for a GI Bill-approved apprenticeship program is unnecessarily burdensome. Under current law, a private employer looking to offer an apprenticeship in multiple states must register separately with each state approval agency. This long and taxing process often discourages many companies from offering apprenticeships.

The VALOR Act would simplify this approval process by allowing companies to register their apprenticeship programs with one central approval agency. Making it easier for companies to create apprenticeships creates more opportunities for veterans to gain meaningful employment in the future. In addition, this bill would help streamline the GI Bill apprenticeship program by eliminating the mandatory second signature requirement that adds unnecessary delays in providing apprenticeship payments to veterans.

**The Message:**

- We cannot allow bureaucracy to impede the education and employment of our veterans.
- The VALOR Act will directly result in more gainful employment for those who have served honorably in our country's military.
- Encouraging a more diverse range of companies to allow apprenticeships will ensure that the veteran population is represented in a wide variety of industries.
- This bill streamlines the process to pay students under the GI Bill apprenticeship program.